

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 02660 010959Z
ACTION EA-12

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CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN KS US
SUBJ: KOREAN MEDIA ON US-RELATED TOPICS, MARCH 31

REF: SEOUL 2602 (DTG 300814Z MAR 78)

1. KIM DONG-JO. OPPOSITION NDP MEMBERS BOYCOTTED TODAY'S LUNCHEON HELD BY FORMIN FOR NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOREIGN AFFAIRS CMTE AND AMB KIM YONG-SIK. HANGUK ILBO QUOTES NDP HEAD YI CH'UL-SUNG, "THE QUESTION OF FORMER AMB KIM DONG-JO'S TESTIMONY IS AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT ISSUE -- NOT TO BE LIGHTLY CHATTED ABOUT OVER LUNCH". YI CALLED FOR FORMAL SESSION OF COMMITTEE TO BE HELD IN ASSEMBLY, SAYING "IF FORMER AMB KIM WOULD TESTIFY IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, THAT WOULD AUTOMATICALLY ELIMINATE THE NECESSITY FOR HIS GOING TO THE US". NO DETAILS OF WHAT WAS DISCUSSED AT LUNCHEON WERE REPORTED, NOR WAS THERE ANY GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO YI'S CALL FOR FORMAL SESSION OF COMMITTEE. PRESS EXCERPT 3/30 BALTIMORE SUN ARTICLE UNDER HEADING "DOS/JAWORSKI AT ODDS". ORIENT PRESS SAYS "DOS MADE CLEAR YESTERDAY THAT NO NEGOTIATIONS ARE UNDERWAY AT THIS TIME (CONCERNING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 SEOUL 02660 010959Z

KIM DONG-JO)" AND QUOTES DOS CANNON, "DEMANDING THE TESTIMONY OF FORMER AMB KIM DOES NOT FIT WITH US DIPLOMATIC INTERESTS; OUR BASIC POLICY WITH REGARD TO ART 31 OF VIENNA CONVENTION REMAINS UNCHANGED". TONGA ILBO'S GOSSIP COLUMN SAYS MOFA OFFICIALS COMMENT THAT KOREA IS BEING USED AS "SEASONING" FOR U.S. DOMESTIC POLITICS DUE TO PTS CASE AND KIM DONG-JO TESTIMONY ISSUE.

2. TITO PROPOSAL. ORIENT PRESS QUOTES DOS CANNON, "THE KOREAN PENINSULA ISSUE WAS DISCUSSED"; REPORTS CANNON REFUSED TO COMMENT ON REPORT PRES. CARTER GAVE AFFIRMATIVE RESPONSE TO TITO'S PROPOSAL; ADDS CANNON REITERATED U.S. POLICY ON NO DIRECT TALKS WITH N.K. WITHOUT ROK. OP QUOTES YUGOSLAV EMBASSY SPOKESMAN IN WASHINGTON: "I HAVE NOT HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT THREE-PARTY PROPOSAL. I HAVE REVIEWED ALL CORRESPONDENCE CONCERNING CARTER/TITO CONFERENCE, BUT FAIL TO FIND ANY REFERENCE TO THE KOREAN ISSUE." EDITORIALS IN KOREAN PRESS TAKE NOTICEABLY SIMILAR STANCE: NO EXPECTATION THAT N.K. WILL ACCEPT PROPOSAL OR FAVOR GERMAN-STYLE SETTLEMENT; SINCE N.K. REFUSES DIRECT NORTH/SOUTH AND FOUR PARTY TALKS, IF N.K. ACCEPTED, IT WOULD BE "PEACE CAMOUGLAGE" TO ISOLATE ROK AND ESTABLISH DIRECT CONTACT WITH U.S.; MOST DESIRABLE COURSE IS TO RESUME DIRECT SOUTH/NORTH TALKS. ONLY EXCEPTION TO THIS LINE IS SINA ILBO WHICH, WHILE DISTRUSTING N.K. INTENTIONS BELIEVES PROPOSAL "MIGHT WEAKEN NORTH KOREA'S MACHINATIONS TO ISOLATE ROK THROUGH DIRECT US/UN DIALOGUE."

3. MILITARY STRIKE FORCE. ALL PAPERS PROMINENTLY FRONTPAGE OR HEADLINE 3/30 PHILA. INQUIRER ARTICLE ON PRESIDENTIAL ORDER TO ORGANIZE "INSTANT COUNTER-STRIKE FORCE" TO DEFEND KOREA, OIL FIELDS IN PERSIAN GULF, AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 SEOUL 02660 010959Z

ISRAEL. NO COMMENTARY.

4. AMB. SNEIDER. KYONGHYANG SINMUN WASH CORRESPONDENT: "CONCERNING RUMOR ABOUT CHANGE OF U.S. AMB IN KOREA, JACK CANNON, DOS EA SPOKESMAN SAID 3/30, 'FOR THE TIME BEING THERE IS NO SUCH POSSIBILITY'. THUS, HE MADE FORMAL DENIAL OF AMB SNEIDER'S TRANSFER. CANNON SAID APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR IS UNDER AUTHORITY OF PRESIDENT; THEREFORE HE IS IN NO POSITION TO COMMENT; BUT HE STRONGLY DENIED SPECULATIVE REPORTING ON AMB SNEIDER AND HIS SUCCESSOR."
SNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 31 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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